

Message Text

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62

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAJ-01 /062 W

----- 002294

R 161550Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0583

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

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E.O.11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR,SP,NO,NATO

SUBJ: NORWEGIANS DELIVER MESSAGE TO SPANISH GOVERNMENT,REPLY

TO STORTING ON EXECUTIONS

REFS: (A) OSLO 4451

(B) OSLO 4379

(C) OSLO 4311

1. NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR TO MADRID THORE BOYE IS EXPECTED

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TO MEET WITH SPANISH FOREIGN OFFICE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OCT 16

TO DELIVER MESSAGE FROM NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT CONCERNING
RECENT EXECUTIONS IN SPAIN(REFTEL A). SPANISH
AUTHORITIES SAID THAT FOREIGN MINISTER WAS UNABLE
TO RECEIVE BOYE, WHO HAS JUST RETURNED AFTER RECALL
TO OSLO. MESSAGE WILL OUTLINE NORWEGIAN REACTION TO
EXECUTIONS, THEIR HOPES THAT THERE WILL BE NO MORE
OF THEM, AS WELL AS THEIR DESIRE TO SEE PROCESS OF
"NORMALIZING" SPAIN'S RELATIONS WITH WESTERN EUROPE,
INCLUDING NORWAY, BE RESUMED.

2. MEANWHILE, FOREIGN MINISTER FRYDENLUND TOLD
STORTING OCT 15 THAT WHILE NORWAY OPPOSED HUMAN RIGHTS
VIOLATIONS IN COUNTRIES OTHER THAN SPAIN, REACTION IN
SPANISH CASE WAS SO STRONG BECAUSE IT WAS SEEN AS A
SETBACK TO THE EFFORTS AND HOPES FOR GRADUAL LIBERAL-
IZATION AND DEMOCRATIZATION IN SPAIN.
FRYDENLUND HAD BEEN ASKED IN STORTING WHY GOVERNMENT'S
REACTION ON SPANISH CASE WAS SO STRONG WHEN THERE
WERE CONTINUOUS VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN COMMUNIST
AND LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

3. ACCORDING FONMIN DIRECTOR-GENERAL POLITICAL AFFAIRS
KJELD VIBE, NORWAY'S MESSAGE TO SPANISH GOVERNMENT
WILL DESCRIBE STRONG REACTION IN NORWAY TO EXECUTIONS,
NOTING SIMILAR REACTION THROUGHOUT WESTERN EUROPEAN
GOVERNMENTS AND IN PARTICULAR HOLY SEE. IT WILL POINT
OUT THAT, IN PART, REACTION STEMS FROM GENERAL NEGATIVE
ATTITUDE IN EUROPE TO CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.
BOYE IS, HOWEVER, INSTRUCTED TO POINT OUT AS WELL THAT
SPAIN'S RECENT EFFORTS TO DRAW CLOSER TO OTHER EUROPEAN
COUNTRIES THROUGH EEC, EFTA AND BILATERAL MEASURES,
WERE LOOKED UPON WITH UNDERSTANDING, ALBEIT,
CAUTION, BY NORWEGIANS BECAUSE THEY THOUGHT SUCH
MEASURES WOULD LEAD TO LIBERALIZATION IN SPAIN. HE
IS ALSO TO RECALL FRYDENLUND'S "NOT UNFAVORABLE"
RESPONSE TO THE SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTER'S REQUEST TO
HIM AT HELSINKI CSCE CONFERENCE FOR A GRADUAL "NORMAL-
IZATION" OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THEIR COUNTRIES, AND TO
MAKE IT CLEAR THAT EXECUTIONS HAVE SET BACK AND ANY NEW HARSH
MEASURES OF REPRESSION AGAINST POLITICAL OPPOSITION WOULD MAKE IT
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VERY HARD TO CONSIDER ANY SUCH EVOLUTION IN RELATIONS.
BOYE IS TO EXPRESS HOPE ON HUMANITARIAN
GROUNDS AND FOR IMPROVED RELATIONS THAT FURTHER
REPRESSIVE MEASURES AND PARTICULARLY EXECUTIONS WILL
CEASE.

4. COMMENT: WE UNDERSTAND FROM VIBE THAT DEMARCHE
IN MADRID FOLLOWS CLOSELY THE LINES OF PRESENTATION

WHICH HE MADE IN MEETING WITH DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS LAST WEEK. VIBE ALSO WENT OUT OF HIS WAY IN MEETING WITH ME TO underscore SERIOUSNESS OF NORWEGIAN APPRE-HENSION OVER IMPLICATIONS OF FURTHER EXECUTIONS FOR FUTURE EVOLUTION IN SPAIN'S RELATIONS WITH WESTERN EUROPE. HE EXPRESSED DIPLOMATICALLY BUT CLEARLY HIS CONCERN THAT US MAY NOT FULLY APPRECIATE THE IMPLICATIONS FOR THE FUTURE OF FURTHER EXECUTIONS, AND HIS HOPE THAT WE WILL USE OUR INFLUENCE TO MODERATE MADRID'S BEHAVIOR. AT SAME TIME, HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT IMMEDIATE EFFECT OF WESTERN EUROPEAN REACTION HAD BEEN TO STRENGTHEN FRANCO'S POSITION. FOREIGN MINISTRY EVIDENTLY RECOGNIZED THAT INITIAL FLIGHT OF EMOTION MUST BE TEMPERED BY A MORE PRACTICAL APPROACH TO DEALING WITH SPAIN, AND THAT SPANISH DESIRE FOR NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITH WESTERN EUROPE WILL STILL PROVIDE IMPETUS FOR RENEWED PROCESS OF LIBERALIZATION. BOYE'S MESSAGE IS INTENDED TO PLAY UPON THESE SENTIMENTS.

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